

From: [Gannon, Nick](#)
To: [Leos, Valmichael](#)
Subject: Re: Phase I Diving San Jacinto Waste Pits
Date: Monday, December 28, 2015 1:54:59 PM

I sent out a draft on 12/15. I have not received any comments. Nick

From: Leos, Valmichael
Sent: Monday, December 28, 2015 11:01
To: Luthans, William; Humphrey, Alan; Gannon, Nick; Todd, Brandi
Cc: Miller, Garyg
Subject: RE: Phase I Diving San Jacinto Waste Pits

Just got off phone with Gary. Any word on the San Jac Trip report?

Sincerely,

Valmichael Leos
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6
O: 214-665-2283
E: leos.valmichael@epa.gov



From: Luthans, William
Sent: Monday, December 28, 2015 9:50 AM
To: Humphrey, Alan; Gannon, Nick; Todd, Brandi; Leos, Valmichael
Cc: Miller, Garyg
Subject: RE: Phase I Diving San Jacinto Waste Pits

A bit of a kerfuffle at site last week. PRP says cap is there; just “dented” perhaps due to a barge. Was discussed this morning at Senior Staff, and I brought up the possibility of simple subsidence given lack of synthetic liner and nature of underbelly and asked at what depth and under how much sediment did they find rock when probing; they weren’t sure. PRP’s first take was that the cap was not damaged and there is no hole; but now they seem to be settling in on a narrative that rocks are still there, just perhaps not on same original horizon. I haven’t heard from Gary on this; just his management chain.

From: Humphrey, Alan
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2015 4:46 PM



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To: Gannon, Nick; Todd, Brandi; Luthans, William; Leos, Valmichael

Subject: RE: Phase I Diving San Jacinto Waste Pits

Guys and gals, Nick mentioned this as we discussed and it may need follow-up. The lack of armour in the 25 foot section in the NW area should be a concern. Given the nature of the land subsidence due to over pumping of ground water, some history of sinkholes in that region (an issue in the Houston area?), a cap on top of the waste does not effectively contain the waste IF the underlying base layer is not intact. This lack of armor also exposes contaminated sediments to tidal action and possible erosion. The quick remedy may be to dump a couple loads of rock on this area to cover the sediment, but not sure if another armor layer will last. The question is, was this area missed during armor application or was there an armor layer applied which sunk into soft sediments or unstable geologic conditions? Or did the armor cap just slump or slide downward in this area due to the slope it was applied on? Val, what is your take on this?

Even in very poor visibility conditions (and Nick stepping in the hole on his first entry!), this supports the need for diver inspection of cap materials to assess the cap condition!

From: Gannon, Nick

Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2015 11:35 AM

To: Humphrey, Alan <Humphrey.Alan@epa.gov>; Todd, Brandi <Todd.Brandi@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Alan, Guess what we found?!?

Yes, 30 minute briefing with RA and Sr. mgmt. tomorrow AM, Bill is lead. Lots of interest in this project(?). Ashley set up a R6 dive team/SJWP folder on share drive. You might be able to access from there or else send pix over and we will post. [R6 Dive Team SharePoint Site](#)

From: Humphrey, Alan

Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2015 10:27 AM

To: Todd, Brandi; Gannon, Nick

Subject: RE: Alan, Guess what we found?!?

Brandi, glad you found them, I have another pair so hold onto them for San Jacinto Phase II. I will send a few photos. Are you guys doing a briefing tomorrow?

From: Todd, Brandi

Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2015 11:04 PM

To: Humphrey, Alan <Humphrey.Alan@epa.gov>; Gannon, Nick <Gannon.Nick@epa.gov>

Subject: Alan, Guess what we found?!?

Found the wrist rings today on the wrists of Nick's suit!!! Thank you Nick for looking so diligently thru Wednesday's trash!!

My mistake. Remember I accidentally put my suit on the boat instead of Nick's the second day? And then when we were looking for the rings I checked the suit on the boat... Still thinking it was yours and not mine. Duh.

FINDERS KEEPERS! Or Maybe we will see their safe return. ;)

Alan, do u need them before the next round in Houston?

Brandi Todd
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US EPA Region 6
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